The People's Korea

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DPRK President Inspects Farms

President Kim Il Sung on Sep. 1 gave an on-the-spot guidance to the Hwasong Cooperative Farm in Ryongsong District, Pyongyang.

He was accompanied by Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea So Gwan Hi, Vice Premier of the Administration Council Kim Chang Ju and other officials concerned.

Going round well-cropped fields of the farm, President Kim Il Sung acquainted himself in detail with the farming this year and gave programmatic teachings which will be a guideline in freeing farmers completely from hard and toilsome work by renovating the method of crop cultivation and mechanizing all the processes of farming.

He expressed deep satisfaction over the fact that the farm has brought about a good crop by mechanizing farm work.

Earlier on Aug. 30, President Kim Il Sung visited the experimental farm of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

He said that good strains of crops and advanced methods of cultivating crops should be introduced widely so as to ensure rich, stable harvest even under continued abnormal weather conditions and put forward tasks for introducing the new research achievements at an early date.

He gave a guideline for further strengthening research work of agricultural sciences and accelerating industrialization and modernization of agriculture, thereby putting the agricultural production on a higher stage.

President Kim Il Sung Receives Cape Verde Del.

President Kim Il Sung on Sep. 1 received the party and government delegation of the Republic of Cape Verde headed by Mr. Pedro Pires, prime minister of the Republic of Cape Verde and deputy secretary-general of the African Party for Independence of Cape Verde.

Present there were Kim Yong Nam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister, and Chong Song Nam, minister of external economic affairs.

The DPRK President received a gift from the head of the delegation.

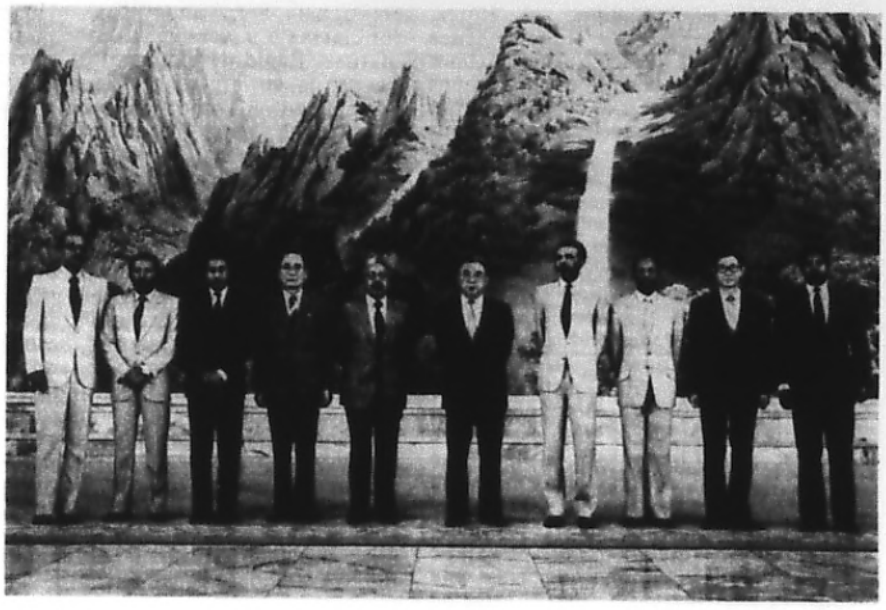
Prime Minister Pedro Pires also presented a gift through an official concerned to Mr. Kim Jong Il, Member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau, and Secretary, of the WPK Central Committee.

The Cape Verde delegation arrived in Pyongyang on Aug. 27 for an official goodwill visit to the DPRK upon the invitation of the WPK Central Committee and the government of the DPRK.

Talks were held between the party and government delegations of the DPRK and the Republic of Cape Verde on Aug. 28 at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

At the talks both sides exchanged views on the development of friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.

The party and government delegation of the Republic of Cape Verde left Pyongyang on Sep. 2.



President Kim Il Sung on Sep. 1 received the Cape Verde party and government delegation headed by Prime Minister Pedro Pires. (Rodong Sinmun , Sep. 2)

Foreign Leaders Back DPRK's Arms Cut Offer

Benin President Mathieu Kerekou on Aug. 28 expressed full support to the new proposal for phased arms reduction on the Korean Peninsula put forward by the DPRK on July 23 when he met the DPRK ambassador to his country.

He stressed, "The U.S. and the south Korean authorities must accept this proposal without delay if they truly want world peace and detente on the Korean Peninsula."

Meanwhile, Mr. Desire Rakotoarijaona, prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, expressed the full support of the Malagasy Vanguard of Revolution, government and people of Madagascar to the proposal of the DPRK government for arms reduction.

The July 23 proposal of Pyongyang for arms reduction supported by:

People's National Party of Jamaica; Peruvian Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea; Bulgarian Committee for Solidarity with the People of Asia and Africa; Nicaraguan Association of Friendship with Socialist Countries; Tessen, Switzerland, Committee for Support to Korea's Reunification; Kyoto Prefectural Committee Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea in Japan; Denmark-DPRK Friendship Association; and Rawalpindi Youth Group of the Muslim League of Pakistan.

Correction

The last part of the message received by President Kim Il Sung and Premier Li Gun Mo from the Soviet leadership on the 42nd liberation of Korea (front page, second column, third paragraph, Aug. 29) should have read: "... turn the peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone and preserve peace and security in the Far East, Asia and the Pacific."

We regret the error. —Editor

1st Film Fest. of Nonaligned Countries Opens in Pyongyang

The First Film Festival of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries opened on Sep. 1 in Pyongyang.

The Pyongyang film festival, the first film festival of a grand scale in the history of the non-aligned movement based on the ideas of independence, friendship and peace, was participated in by delegations, delegates and guests from 38 countries and international organizations. Presented at the festival were more than 100 films such as feature, documentary, scientific and animated cartoon films made in non-aligned and other developing countries.

At the opening ceremony held at the People's Palace of Culture, a congratulatory message sent by President Kim Il Sung to the participants in the festival was conveyed by Premier Li Gun Mo.

In the message President Kim Il Sung pointed out that the Pyongyang film festival would mark an important occasion in the further development of film art in the developing countries and contribute to consolidating the bonds of friendship and unity among the developing countries and moviemen and strengthening the non-aligned movement, and expressed the belief that the festival would bring good results. **(See his message on page 2).**

Following the opening of the festival, a film fair aimed at strengthening film exchange and cooperation among countries opened on Sep. 2.

IOC Urged to Call 5th Lausanne Talks Early

Chin Chung Guk, vice chairman of the DPRK Olympic Committee, had a press interview on Aug. 31 with a KCNA reporter in connection with the fact that Kim Yu Sun, chairman of the DPRK Olympic Committee, sent a letter dated Aug. 31 to the IOC president.

Vice Chairman Chin Chung Guk said at the press interview that the IOC president on Aug. 24 sent a reply letter to Chairman Kim Yu Sun's Aug. 10 letter containing the new co-hosting proposal.

Chairman Kim Yu Sun sent a letter dated Aug. 31 to the IOC president and in the letter he expressed regret at the fact that the IOC attached condition that a joint meeting may be held on condition that the DPRK side fully accepted the July 15 "adjusted proposal" of the IOC at the urgent time with about 20 days left before the sending of the invitation cards.

Recalling that the letter stressed if all parties to the talks meet once again to have an earnest and serious discussion, respecting each other's opinions, it is possible to narrow down the differences even now and reach a final agreement, he noted that the letter demanded the IOC president take the earliest possible positive step to ensure that the DPRK proposal calling for an early convocation of the fifth round of the joint meeting is put into effect.

The letter suggested that if it is difficult to call the fifth joint meeting before Sep. 17 for some unavoidable reasons the date of the issue of invitations to the Olympic Games be deferred for the purpose of calling the fifth round of the tripartite meeting aimed at reaching a final agreement on all the important and principled questions, he pointed out, and stressed:

This is the only realistic way of reaching a final agreement without bringing to naught the untiring efforts bent by us over the last three years at the Lausanne joint meeting arranged with so much efforts. He said the letter expressed the expectation that the IOC president would take this offer into full consideration.

Congratulatory Message of President Kim Il Sung to Pyongyang Film Fest.

President Kim Il Sung of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a congratulatory message to the participants in the First Pyongyang Film Festival of Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries.

The congratulatory message reads:

I am very pleased that the film festival of non-aligned and other developing countries is being held in Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, under the slogan "For Independence, Friendship and Peace", and extend my warm greetings and congratulations to the delegations and delegates from many countries as well as prominent people and all other foreign guests who are taking part in the festival.

The Pyongyang film festival is a large-scale film festival, the first of its kind in the history of the non-aligned movement, which is held in accordance with the decisions of the ministerial conference and summit conference of the non-aligned countries. The Pyongyang film festival being held amidst the great expectations and deep interest of the progressive people and film artists around the world will be an important occasion where the successes and experience gained by the film artists of many countries in the field of cinematic art will be shared and exchange and cooperation amongst them effected so as to develop cinematic art in the developing countries. It will also make a contribution to consolidating the ties of friendship and solidarity between the film artists and other people of these countries and strengthening the non-aligned movement.

Cinematic art has a very important part to play in achieving the cause of Chajusong for the peoples.

Cinema is an art which shows human life in a most life-like way through the combination of various artistic means. A film which truthfully represents the life of an independent man has a very great ideological and emotional influence. Progressive cinema arms people with advanced ideas, educates them in lofty morality and beautiful emotions and inspires them to the just struggle for freedom, peace and social progress.

Cinema is now a very important means of the people's cultural and emotional life, and their demand for cinema is increasing with the passage of time. Rapid development of cinematic art is an urgent problem for the non-aligned and other developing countries which were far behind modern civilization owing to the policy of the imperialists and colonialists to obliterate national culture.

The veritable mission of cinematic art is to teach people the truth of life and show them the road ahead of their struggle. If it is to fulfil this mission, cinematic art must truthfully portray the worthwhile struggle and beautiful lives of independent people and pay due attention to the urgent problems which are raised by the times. Only the cinematic art that properly mirrors the lives of independent people and the requirements of the times can fulfil its mission as the guide to life and as the weapon of struggle, and make a contribution to enriching the treasurehouse of human culture.

An important task facing the non-aligned and other developing countries at the moment is to get rid of the evil consequences of imperialist colonial rule and build a free and prosperous new society. Cinematic art must enlighten and awaken people so that they will become genuine masters of society and must dynamically rouse them to the efforts to build an independent new society.

Prevention of war and defence of peace is a burning question which is facing mankind today. It is only in a peaceful climate that people can build an independent new society successfully by their creative labour. Cinematic art must focus on the problems of peace and war and be an ardent advocate and protector of peace. It must instill the spirit of hating aggression and war and loving peace in the minds of broad sections of people and expose and scathingly denounce every move of the war maniacs to provoke a new war, thus contributing to the mankind's sacred cause of peace.

Friendship and solidarity are an important guarantee for winning victory in the common cause of the progressive people of the world. Film art must pay due attention to deepening understanding and strengthening bonds of friendship and unity between countries and nations.

The struggle and life of the people are going on with the country and the nation as a unit and the people of each country have their own national peculiarities. Film art must give the true picture of the people's struggle to achieve their aspirations and desire for independence as well as their varied lives so as to cater to their national tastes. Only by doing so can film art win love and admiration from the people.

If the developing countries are to develop film art soundly, they must combat the infiltration of imperialist culture. Today the imperialists are intensifying cultural infiltration into other countries, and here they are using films as an important lever. The reactionary films of imperialism are a mental narcotic which corrodes the independent consciousness of people and paralyses their fighting will. The developing countries must sharpen vigilance against the imperialist cultural infiltration by means of film and reject it categorically.

Film art is created by the great ardour and devoted effort of film artists. The honourable task of serving the people's cause of justice by using film is entrusted to you, the progressive film artists. The progressive film artists must produce many fine films which mirror human life in depth and show the truth of struggle and life clearly and thus fulfil their honourable mission and heavy responsibility to the time and mankind.

In order to develop cinematic art rapidly, the developing countries must effect extensive cooperation and exchange in this field. Cinematic art in the developing countries is now blossoming and developing, representing the people's aspiration and requirements, and valuable successes have been made in film making. If the developing countries increase cooperation and exchange on the basis of these successes, they will make a still greater advance in the development of cinematic art. They should take positive measures to develop cooperation and exchange in cinematic art on the principle of collective self-reliance and carry them out sincerely. Progressive cinema artists around the world should frequently contact and visit one another and share the successes and experiences they have gained in producing films, thus constantly expanding the ties of cooperation.

Our people and cinema artists highly value the friendship and cooperation with the progressive people and cinema artists the world over. They will strive to exapnd and develop the friendship and cooperation with all of them.

I wish that you who are devoted to the development of cinematic art, will attain a new success in your work of creating films. I am confident that this Pyongyang film festival will achieve a good success thanks to your high sense of cooperative spirit and sincere efforts.

Secretary Kim Jong Il Outstanding Thinker and Theoretician: Seminars on Juche Idea

The works by Secretary Kim Jong Il have been widely read and studied abroad. These are "On Some Problems of Education in the Juche Idea" and "On the Juche Idea."

The former is based on a talk to the senior officials of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on July 15, 1986 and was published on July 15, 1987. (See The People's Korea No. 1,346)

Seminars and lectures on the Secretary's various works have been held in many foreign countries:

Guyana

A study meeting of the work "On Some Problems of Education in the Juche Idea" was held on Aug. 15 at the Group for the Study of the Juche Idea of Comrade Kim Jong Il of Anns Grov Region, Guyana.

Percival Johnson, chairman of the group, underlined the theoretical and practical significance of the work.

He highly praised Secretary Kim Jong Il as an outstanding thinker and theoretician, a great man who is successfully carrying forward and developing the Juche idea founded by President Kim Il Sung with a perfect grasp on it.

Madagascar

Randriana Solo Benjamin David, chairman of the Antananarivo Provincial Committee for the Study of the Socialist Revolutionary Charter of Madagascar and the Juche Idea of the Malagasy Vanguard of Revolution said:

The dear leader Comrade Kim Jong Il is an outstanding thinker and theoretician and illustrious successor to the cause of Juche. He further developed and enriched the Juche idea by publishing the work.

Noting that dear Comrade Kim Jong Il in his work originally indicated theories on the subject of the revolution and the revolutionary attitude regarding the leader, he continued:

The work "On Some Problems of Education in the Juche Idea" is an encyclopedia consummating theories on the Juche idea and a valuable textbook for the study of the idea.

It is of weighty, theoretical and practical importance in developing revolution at the present time, the era of Chajusong, and hewing out the destiny of human beings.

Sierra Leone

A seminar on "On the Juche Idea" a treatise of Secretary Kim Jong Il, was held on Aug. 17 at the Teachers Group for the Study of the Immortal Juche Idea of the Freetown Teachers College of Sierra Leone.

The secretary of the group, in his report, outlined the keynote of "The Philosophical Principle of the Juche Idea" and laid stress on the theoretical and practical significance of the treatise.

Noting that in the treatise the dear leader Comrade Kim Jong Il gave a profound scientific exposition of the philosophical principle which constitutes the basis of the Juche idea, he remarked that the great Juche idea, the first to be discovered in the history of human thought, was being widely studied and disseminated worldwide at present.

Other countries

- Group for the Study of the Juche Idea of the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung of the members of the Burundi-Korea Friendship Association, Burundi;
- Group for the Study of the Juche Idea of the Dar es Salaam National Education College and Dar es Salaam Group for the Study of Kimilsungism in Tanzania;
- Group for the Study of Kimilsungism of Functionaries of the Educational Book Dissemination Office of the Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture and Group for the Study of the Juche Idea of Comrade Kim Il Sung of Anns Grov region of Guyana;
- Youth Center for the Study of Kimilsungism, Theory and Practice Center of Kimilsungism, Marondera Committee for the Study of the Juche Idea, Marondera Center for the Study of Kimilsungism and Mrewa Group for the Study of the Juche Idea in Zimbabwe;

(Continued on page 3)

Foreign guests studying the Juche idea

On Molding Man As a Creator of Future (1)

The following article was written by Prof. Moriguchi Kenji of Kyoto University, Japan. We introduce excerpts from his article on the originality of Juche-oriented socialist education on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the announcement of the "Theses on Socialist Education" by President Kim Il Sung on Sep. 5, 1977.

Man As the Subject to Transform History

I accepted the Juche idea believing that I must take the responsibility for the destiny of mankind and therefore maintain an independent attitude towards it, adhering to the stand of a Japanese and a human being.

As is clearly elucidated by the Juche idea the whole life of a human being is essentially different from that of plants and animals as living organic bodies.

For instance, the whole life of plants is a completion or a repeated process regardless of man's action towards it. In other words, the process of the whole life of plants is such that seeds fall down to ground, buds come out, bear fruits and seeds fall down again.

In contrast, we human beings, are, in a sense, everlasting beings, not in a negative meaning but in the sense that man acts, creating history by himself as a social being carving out his future through the struggle to remake nature in close cooperation with others.

Therefore, the whole life of man in any spheres and the history of mankind may be regarded as a process of man's positive activities. Herein lies the fundamental difference between man, and plants and animals.

President Kim Il Sung said in his "Theses on Socialist Education" as follows:

"Socialist education is teaching man to be an independent and creative social being." (Kim Il Sung, Theses On Socialist Education p.3)

It is regarded as the fundamental principle of education to rear man into a social being with Chajusong who exerts his creative action on each situation in history, taking the responsibility upon his shoulders.

Education involves the problem of value. Many people say that education means to bring up a man of good character. What does the word "good" mean in this context? For whom should a man be brought up and what type of man should he be brought up to be so as to be a man of "good" worth?

Looking back on history, we see that it happened that by "education" people were aroused to wars and oppression of other nations and countries.

In education, priority should be given to the interests and benefits of the working people and not to those of a small numbers of privileged people who holds political and economic power in their hands or superpowers.

But all-rounded social beings are brought up through educational work on them. Herein lies the characteristic of the principle of socialist pedagogy clarified in the theses.

The DPRK President said:

"Juche must be established in education." (Ibid. p.9)

To establish Juche in education means to bring up man to be an independent being or nation based on the essential character of the Juche idea that the popular masses are the masters in revolution and construction and they are also motive forces to advance them, adhering to the independent stand in conformity with the realities of each country against flunkeyism and dogmatism.

The DPRK President said:

"Education should be combined with revolutionary practice." (Ibid. p.11)

Education does not mean teaching something in an abstract way. But what has been taught should be combined surely with practice.

The President's "Theses on Socialist Education" based on the fundamental principle of socialist pedagogy was made public at the 14th Plenary Meeting of the Fifth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on Sep. 5, 1977.

Secretary Kim Jong Il succeeded the President's theory and developed it in his speech "On Further Developing Educational Work" on July 22, 1984 at the National Meeting of Educational Activities.

It is man that transforms nature and society and creates future and therefore the question of how to remould man or what type of man should be brought up becomes important.

By the way, when we, living in the present situation in Japan, look back on ourselves, do we find ourselves as the subject of transformation? Rather don't we often find ourselves as objects being controlled in regimented society?

When we find ourselves in such a situation, I regard it as of great significance to learn from the "Theses on Socialist Education" and "On Further Developing Educational Work" which raise an important question in education of how to bring up man as the remaker of nature and society.

Education to Guarantee Well-rounded Development of Man

The first proposition of "On Further Developing Educational Work" is that "Further Development of Education Is an Important Requirement of Our Revolution."

Secretary Kim Jong Il said:

"Education is one of the fundamental bases on which the prosperity and future of a nation depend."

Needless to say, we Japanese should think of the future of Japan as the Korean people do with regard to the destiny of the Korean nation.

At the same time, international solidarity among nations and countries should be considered, I believe. It cannot be said optimistically that international solidarity has already been built in response to the requirements of all peoples throughout the world to become masters on their own. I would rather say that the interests of individual nations and countries are complicatedly tangled.

Therefore, we, who dream of a day when all the peoples throughout the world will become the masters of their own political power and productive means production, need to think of educational work of the whole world from the international point of view, including that in our own countries.

I think that educational work is the question of each nation itself and at the same time the question of realizing international solidarity and world peace.

Also the first proposition points out that education is an undertaking to transform man into a being with independent consciousness who makes creative efforts on his own responsibility.

Furthermore, it points out that the basic realms of social progress involve the activities to transform nature, society and man. In relation to this, emphasis should be laid on making the people's economy Juche-oriented, modern and scientific and on heightening the level of technology.

(To be continued)

Jap. Teachers Meet for Studying Juche Idea

The 11th National Meeting of Japanese Teachers to Study the Juche Idea was held in Tokyo on Aug. 19.

In his keynote report to the meeting General Secretary of the Liaison Council of the Society for the Study of the Juche Idea of Japanese Teachers, Yokobori Shoichi said:

The Juche idea is a new revolutionary idea which was founded by His Excellency President Kim Il Sung and has been developed and enriched by his Excellency Kim Jong Il.

The man-centred Juche idea, which thoroughly defends and develops the Chajusong and creativeness of the popular masses, is a revolutionary idea that indicates the way of steadily enhancing the position and role of man, the master of the world and completely realizing man's Chajusong.

The meeting heard special reports titled "On the Education of Juche" and "On the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea".

Reports on study and activity were made at the meeting.

Letters to the great leader President Kim Il Sung and dear Comrade Kim Jong Il were adopted at the meeting.

The meeting adopted an appeal.

Book "Secretary Kim Jong Il, His Virtues, Feats" Issued

The book "Secretary Kim Jong Il, His Virtues and Feats" written by Ishikawa Sho, former editorial member of the political news section of the Japanese Mainichi Shimbun and professor at Iwakimyojo University in Japan, was recently published by the Yuzankaku Publishing House of Japan.

The author of the book wrote about the brilliant revolutionary activities of Secretary Kim Jong Il, holding him in high esteem as the successor to the revolutionary cause of Juche.

The author highly praised the greatness of the Juche idea founded by President Kim Il Sung and pointed out that the Juche idea is now being continuously developed and enriched by the ideological and theoretical activities of Secretary Kim Jong Il.

The author also said that the Secretary is wisely leading socialist economic construction through his advice.

Study Group of Secretary's Idea Formed in Peru

The inaugural meeting of a group for the study of the literary and art ideas of Comrade Kim Jong Il was held in Lima on Aug. 14.

Speaking at the meeting, Paul Juna Balon, chairman of the group, stressed that dear Comrade Kim Jong Il is successfully translating the Juche idea founded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung in the field of literature and art and has published many works to make a great contribution to the development of Juche-oriented literature and art.

A letter to Comrade Kim Jong Il was adopted at the meeting.

(Continued from page 2)

- Group for the Study of Kimilsungism of Youth in North Karachi, Pakistan;
- Group for the Study of the Juche Idea of Comrade Kim Il Sung in Christianshavan, Denmark;
- Kim Il Sung Library in Somalia;
- Baasa Group for the Study of the Juche Idea in Finland;
- Group for the Study of the Juche Idea in Iran;
- and Haninge Group for the Study of the Juche Idea in Sweden.

The work of Secretary Kim Jong Il was reported by:

Peruvian papers Hoy and La Tercera; Nicaraguan paper El Nuevo Diario; Ugandan paper Focus; Tanzanian paper Daily News; Malagasy paper Vao Vao N'y Tolom Bahoaka; Malagasy News Agency; and Congolese Radio.

The work of Secretary Kim Jong Il was highly evaluated by:

Prof. and Dr. Pravin Kumar Gandhi of the Jamia Millia University of India; Naiyou Koulibari, advisor to the Ministry of Basic Education of Mali; Panos Nicolas Panayotunis, secretary general of the Greek Writers Society; and Prof. and Dr. Rupen Kantu Chapa of the National Automous University of Mexico.

World's Highest Hotel to Be Built

A 105-story hotel is to be built on the Sojang Hill in Potonggang district, Pyongyang.

It has a construction area of 40 hectares, a total floor space of 360,000 square metres and it is 300 metres high or 160 metres higher than the Pyongyang Koryo Hotel.

At present the world's highest hotel is the "Western Stamford" Hotel in Singapore which soars 226.1 metres high. However, when the 105-story hotel is built it will replace the Western Stamford as the world's highest hotel.

It is equipped with 3,000 guest rooms, conference and negotiation rooms including a 2,000-seat one available for international conference, a 2,000-seat banquet hall, restaurants including ones for family use, soft drink bars, a plant of materials for restaurants, a swimming pool, saunas, exercise rooms for medical treatment, electron pleasure rooms and other cultural and service facilities.

It is a unique, Korean-style skyscraper with the architectural form of a triangular pyramid without an equal in the world, safe in structure and magnificent in architectural shape.

An artist's conception of a 105-story hotel in Pyongyang.

Police Raid 2 Plants, Arrest Striking Workers

On Sep. 4, thousands of riot police stormed two plants held by strikers and arrested over 300 workers in a tough government crackdown on labor disputes.

According to foreign press reports, some 3,000 riot police moved in before dawn to remove strikers holding the strike-bound Daewoo Co. car plant at Pupyong outside Seoul and arrested 135 workers.

Riot police arrested 162 strikers from the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. shipyard in a series of early morning raids in the southern port of Ulsan and in later clashes outside the facility.

Most of the strikers were seized in raids on a workers dormitory at the country's largest shipyard and other locations where workers were sleeping.

At the Daewoo Motors Plant at Inchon, west of Seoul, 3,000 riot police moved in at 4 a.m. and arrested all 140 workers who had occupied the plant since Sep. 2.

Four workers were injured in this operation, including two who jumped from the second floor and one who slit his right wrist.

At the southern port of Ulsan, police charged into the strike-bound Hyundai Heavy Industries Plant at 6 a.m. and arrested 162 workers, who were occupying the plant to back up demands for higher wages.

Police fired up to 500 canisters of tear gas to overcome the Hyundai workers, who had earlier seized five plain-clothes police officers.

Police said 20 strike leaders were among those detained.

The raids were the first major government actions against strikers holding plants.

About 13,000 striking workers, angered by the death of fellow striker, occupied south Korea's largest shipyard on Sep. 3.

That day a striker was killed as he and hundreds of colleagues were guarding the streets outside a stadium where more than 20,000 shipyard workers were staging an overnight sit-in.

Chae Tae Chang, 44, was run over when a van driver, his way blocked by workers, drove into the crowd as he tried to make a U-turn, witnesses said. Four other strikers were injured.

He was the second fatality in two months of labour unrest in south Korea.

After the overnight vigil, about 13,000 workers at Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. occupied the shipyard to press their demands for pay raises and other benefits and to protest the death of Mr. Chae.

Witnesses said the workers, led by scores of forklifts, cranes and other heavy vehicles, marched through the streets of Ulsan carrying Mr. Chae's coffin to the grounds of Hyundai.

"Raise our pay!" the workers chanted.

All but 200 left the shipyard by nightfall.

Tens of thousands of Hyundai workers returned to work last month after the company recognized their newly formed unions and promised to consider the requests for wage increases.

Hundreds of riot police attack strikers of the Hyundai Company on Sep. 4 who were blocking the front gates of the factory. The action came after the government announced a crackdown on strikers. (Reuter)

Actually no agreement on wages was reached in the preliminary settlement, which was mediated by a high-ranking labour ministry official.

On Sep. 2, the postponed issue of wages returned as 20,000 to 30,000 workers staged sit-ins and paraded through the east coast city of Ulsan. Other workers gathered in front of Ulsan's city hall.

Workers originally requested an increase in basic wages of 25 percent while management offered 7 percent. Both sides had moved toward compromise by Sep. 2, but the talks broke off without agreement in the morning.

Labour ministry officials said on Sep. 4 that 569 strikers were continuing across the country, with 2,469 strikers settled since late June.

More than 12,000 taxi drivers in Seoul remained on strike on Sep. 4 despite a 5.6 percent pay raise agreed upon the day before. The drivers are demanding a straight wage instead of a commission pay system.

Students Come Back to Campuses, Renew Protests

Thousands of students battled police with firebombs and rocks as colleges reopened across south Korea on Sep. 1.

Some 10,000 students staged anti-government demonstrations and rallies at 20 universities across the country on the first day of the semester, according to press reports from Seoul.

In Seoul, about 4,000 students from three major universities held a joint rally on the Kwanak campus of Seoul National University.

They demanded the release of jailed student activists and genuine democracy.

In the protest which started around 3 p.m., students from Seoul National, Yonsei and Ehwa Woman's universities also demanded guarantee of greater autonomy.

Student council presidents of the three school were arrested last month on charges of possessing printed materials serving the enemy's interest and defaming the state and the law governing assemblies and demonstrations.

They were Lee Nam Ju of Seoul National, Woo Sang Ho of Yonsei and Miss Im Mi Ae of Ewha. (Woo has been charged with slandering the state for statements made to The New York Times.)

The protesting students insisted that the deceptive nature of an eight-point democratization plan presented by Roh Tae Woo on June 29 has been revealed as the government is overtly suppressing the activities of the recently-formed National Student Representatives Council and the National Coalition for a Democratic Constitution.

They vowed to conduct and all-out struggle for the release of the three student leaders and for the establishment of genuine democracy.

Earlier in the day, some 2,000 Seoul University students staged an on-campus demonstration to "safeguard" their student council.

They urged other students to boycott the final examinations of the first semester that they were to take for four days from Sep. 1. Many students boycotted term exams postponed from the first semester.

On Sep. 3, some 500 students of Seoul National University gathered in their auditorium to express their solidarity with workers.

They decided to wage a solidarity movement in support of the workers' struggle for democratic unions and the right to existence in a resolution.

On Sep. 4, anti-government protests erupted at 17 universities.

Some 500 students clashed with riot police in a recurring campus protest at Yonsei University. The students were demanding the release of their leader, Woo Sang Ho.

Opposition Party Favors N-Free Korea, Non-Aggression "Pact"

The Reunification Democratic Party is said to be including a plan for a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula in its draft policy platform (election pledges) to be confirmed in mid-September.

The main opposition party is considering 100-point democratic reforms for national politics as election pledges.

What is noteworthy is that they are said to make efforts to conclude non-aggression "pact" with the north and establish a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula based on the peaceful coexistence of north and south Korea.

The DPRK has called for the establishment of a nuclear-free peace zone on the Korean Peninsula and has urged Seoul to adopt a non-aggression declaration.

If the election campaign begins, the reunification issue also will be a major topic among south Koreans, reported the Japanese daily Yomiuri Shimbun on Sep. 4.

Brief News From Seoul

Opposition & Ruling Parties Agree on Election by Dec. 20

Kim Young Sam, president of the major opposition Reunification Democratic Party, and Roh Tae Woo, chairman of the Democratic Justice Party, agreed on Sep. 2 to hold elections by Dec. 20.

They met in the national assembly building for almost three hours and agreed on a timetable for direct presidential elections.

Although they agreed on the draft constitution and on the holding of national referendum, the two did not agree on all points. Kim pressed for the release of more political prisoners, but he won only an agreement to discuss the issue further.

They also disagreed on when to hold national assembly elections. Kim favors December and Roh suggests February.

33 People Found Dead

A female trading company president in Taejon and 32 residents of a welfare center were found dead on a farm near Yongin on Aug. 29.

The body of Pak Sun Ja, head of Odaeyang Trading Co. in Taejon, and 32 other bodies were found by her husband, Lee Ki Jong, above the ceiling of the company's plant at the farm.

Pak had been missing since Aug. 24 when 13 of her employees were arrested on charges of assaulting a 52-year-old man, his wife and chauffer on Aug. 16. They had visited the company to demand repayment of 500 million won lent to the company. The woman is said to have had liabilities of about 7 billion won.

Police probing the mass death in the farm attic suspected that Pak might have forced the 32 people to take poison and then strangled with cords while they were incapacitated.

Police are also investigating the possibility that the victims, who have been brainwashed by the self-imposed female cult leader, were persuaded to commit suicide by voluntarily taking toxican before she took her own life.

The woman is suspected of having borrowed a large amount of money in return for hiring the children of creditors or accommodating their children in her welfare center called "Haksawon." She also operated a home for the elederly.

Later, her husband was arrested by police.

Flames engulf riot policemen after students threw a petrol bomb at them on Sep. 4 during anti-government demonstrations at Yonsei University. Students expressed support for nationwide labour strikes. (Reuter)

South Korea, a Sensitized Society In Transition (1)

By Steve Clark

Having monitored events in South Korea from the relative tranquility of Hong Kong for a number of years, it was with a certain degree of trepidation that I set off for Seoul on a fact finding mission in early August.

There had been no demonstrations for four weeks; talks on constitutional reform were just about to begin; political prisoners were being released and Roh Tae Woo's Mr. Nice Guy image was being polished, in readiness for the battle yet to come.

What was really happening in South Korea? Had the military regime woken up one morning last June and suddenly realised that democracy would be good for the country, or was it simply buying time? What was the extent of Korean people power? Do the people trust the government? Can we expect to see a real democratic civilian government in this military dominated society? These were some of the questions I hoped to find answers to.

The violent clashes a month before had not dissuaded tourists from visiting Seoul. To the contrary, hotels were busy, tourist sights were well patronized and shops appeared to be doing a brisk trade with a horde of bargain hunters. To the tourists, South Korea looked as if everything was back to normal.

Perhaps the only reminder that in June the country had been tottering on the brink of revolution, were the bus loads of riot police, strategically positioned around the city. The actual policemen were not as conspicuous as the heavily armoured buses. Dressed in jeans and casual shirts and with their Darth Vader suits hanging in the windows of the buses, they could easily have been mistaken for students as they loafed about the street, looking bored and uninterested. Only the occasional glimpse of a walkie-talkie revealed their ture identity and indicated that they were waiting for trouble.

Anti-Americanism

As one would expect in a country where the most popular excursion is a trip to the Demilitarized Zone, American servicemen were in evidence everywhere, standing out like sore thumbs in their camouflage battle dress and serving as a graphic example of the gigantic foot the United States has lodged firmly in South Korea's door.

At night, the bars, nightclubs and discoteques of Itaewon begin to fill up with Americans wanting to party. The music is American, the currency is dollars, the language is English. One could be forgiven for imagining that this is a little piece of New York, beamed down on Asia.

Two American soldiers I met on my first night in Seoul, seemed indifferent to the growing wave of anti-Americanism sweeping the country. "They don't hate us when their taking our money!" one of them exclaimed, and his friend added, "There's been anti-Americanism here for years, but it hasn't changed anything. We're not going to leave Korea because a few people don't like us."

The next day, I encountered the other side of the coin, when I was approached in the street by a student, eager to practice his English. We went to a nearby coffee shop for a chat and the conversation soon turned to politics. In stark contrast to the Americans I had met the previous evening, the young student told me, "We will never stop protesting until the Americans get out and our country is reunified."

Over the next few days, I was to learn that anti-American sentiments were widespread in the community and not only confined to students.

An American businessman whom I interviewed, attributed this, primarily, to the fact that America is seen as supporting the unpopular government of Chun Doo Hwan, making its survival possible.

However, dissident leaders I spoke to, more often cited American responsibility for the division of the nation and the imposition of America's global war strategy, as the main reasons for anti-Americanism.

Whatever the reasons, the strength of public opinion is such that there must be a lot of worried people in Washington and the Pentagon at the moment.

Anti-Japanese Sentiments

People power played a key role in pushing Chun and Roh toward a "compromise" in June. Photo shows Seoul citizens gathering in front of the City Hall to demand constitutional revision.

Whereas anti-Americanism has received a lot of media attention, only a little has been heard about anti-Japanese sentiments, which from my observations, run just as high, if not higher.

Many Koreans I spoke to have a deep and lingering resentment of the Japanese, which stems from the period of Japanese colonial rule.

There is a widespread fear that Japan's increasing equity stake in South Korea, powered by the strong yen, is a form of economic imperialism.

Koreans have learned not to trust the Japanese and many believe that Japan still wishes to dominate and exploit the country.

A dissident leader told me that he believes Japan to be the main obstacle to reunification. He commented that "The Japanese have a national complex towards Korea and are extremely jealous of Korea's economic achievements. They could not tolerate a unified and economically powerful Korea on their doorstep."

If growing anti-Japanese sentiments are to be toned down, then Japan will have to be seen as supporting the process of democratization.

In addition, Japan will have to improve its treatment of the 700,000 Korean residents in Japan, many of whom are descended from Koreans forced to come to Japan during the Japanese occupation of Korea.

The Process of Change

It was pointed out to me, by informed sources, on several occasions, that the present political situation is the result of a gradual process of change that began in the 1960's, when the opposition, for the first time, seriously began to consider the possibility of coming to power and people's frustrations with the violent excesses and controls of the military regime began to grow.

These processes of change were accelerated by the election of February 1985. Since then, political polarization and the dissatisfaction of the population have been increasing exponentially.

Commenting on the changes that have taken place since the February 1985 election, the dissident leader said, "Since then, people have not been afraid to talk. Before the 1985 election, people were afraid to criticize the government in the back of a taxi, because they felt they might be taken to the police station. In fact, my wife and mother were taken to a police station by taxi drivers, on several occasions, for criticizing the government. Now, all that has changed. People are not afraid to talk and they have a new confidence in themselves."

More recently, Chun Doo Hwan inflamed the situation, when he issued a dictatorial decree on April 13, putting an end to talks on constitutional reform until after the Olympics.

This action by Chun left the people in no doubt that a battle with the fascist government had to be fought.

The torture killing of Pak Chong Chol, the sexual torture of Miss Kwon and the large-scale Pan-Ocean financial scandal also contributed to the growing anti-government feelings that were gathering pace as a result of the government's insensitive crackdown.

On June 10, when the government announced that Roh Tae Woo was to be their presidential candidate, to be elected by a system that would guarantee his victory, a wave of protest swept the nation and Korean people power became an indisputable fact, not merely a concept borrowed from the Philippines.

The middle class, who have been gradually becoming politically aware and increasingly embarrassed that their political progress lags far behind their economic progress, joined the demonstrations and the respective governments in Washington and Seoul began to realise, that without significant concessions, their days in control were numbered.

Hey presto, Roh Tae Woo, no longer a dictator with a wig, becomes a Kim Dae Jung impersonator and puts his career on the line unless the demands of the people are met.

To me, the whole scenario seemed too stage-managed to be given any credibility. It is outrageous, that the same people who have been trying to crush the democratic movement for the last eight years, are now trying to take the credit for introducing democratic reforms. It looks like a classic case of; if you can't beat them, join them.

Personally, I would find it easier to believe that Ronald Reagan knew nothing about the diversion of funds from Iranian arms sales, than I would to believe that Chun Doo Hwan is sincere about handing over the reigns of power to the people who have opposed him for so long.

However, a senior official of the National Coalition for a Democratic Constitution and a prominent dissident leader were both of the opinion that the government had no choice but to introduce democratic reforms because of the strength of Korean people power. They told me that Korean people power was here to stay and would continue to grow in strength.

(To be continued)

Steve Clark is an American free-lance journalist working in Hong Kong. He has recently visited south Korea and contributed this comment to The People's Korea.

AIDS Spreads in S. Korea

A 21-year-old Seoul man, who said he had sexual relations with bar hostesses who largely cater to foreigners, has tested positive for the AIDS virus, it was announced on Sep. 1.

South Korea's ministry of health and social affairs said the unemployed youth is the first known case in which a Korean man has been infected with the deadly virus after having sexual relations with local women.

Eight of the 11 people who have tested positive for the AIDS virus are women who predominantly have sex with American servicemen or other foreigners.

The announcement said the youth had had sex occasionally with hostesses at entertainment establishments in Itaewon, a district frequented by U.S. servicemen and other foreigners, up to last November.

The man became the 11th Korean to test positive for the virus in south Korea. Of them, two have died – a man of an AIDS-related complex and a woman in a traffic accident.

It is feared that actually many more south Koreans have the AIDS virus.

Specialists say U.S. servicemen have acted as the middlemen for the AIDS virus. They frequently visit bars in Itaewon and have sexual relations with prostitutes or hostesses.

Meanwhile, the Pentagon has recently identified 3,035 military personnel and 1,766 recruit applicants as carriers of the AIDS virus out of more than 3 million tested.

According to new statistics, which update totals that were last compiled in March, were obtained by the Associated Press on Aug. 31.

Of the 3.05 million tested, 4,801 "positives" have been discovered for an overall rate of almost 1.6 cases per 1,000.

As has been the case with previous testing results, the rate for recruit applicants – generally younger men and women – continues to run at roughly 1.5 cases per 1,000, while the rate for active-duty personnel is holding steady at slightly more than 1.6 per 1,000.

Under Pentagon regulations, personnel with the virus are allowed to remain in the service as long as they show no signs of the actual disease.

The above-mentioned fatal disease is being spread in south Korea, particularly in the base villages of the U.S. forces in Seoul.

It is desirable that the U.S. troops should be withdrawn from south Korea and the Seoul Olympics be reconsidered.

Chongryun Official's Statement in Japanese Diet On Alien Registration Law

On Sep. 1, Ha Chang Ok, director of the Social Affairs Bureau of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan), gave his views at the Judicial Committee of the House of Representatives of the Japanese Diet, which was discussing a partial revision of the Alien Registration Law.

Follows a detail report on his statement:

Ha Chang Ok, director of the Social Affairs Bureau of Chongryun, gave his views on Sep. 1 at the Judicial Committee of the House of Representatives of the Japanese Diet on the Alien Registration Law.

On the Unwarrantableness of a Bill For a Partial Amendment To the "Law"

Let me first discuss the bill for a partial amendment to the Alien Registration Law (hereinafter the "Law" unless otherwise specified).

The Japanese Justice Ministry says that the present bill is the "best bill" to "reduce burden" on foreigners residing in Japan. However, we cannot but hold opposing views on it from the standpoint of Korean nationals in Japan to whom the Alien Registration Law is applied.

Resident foreigners as well as resident Koreans unanimously demand the revision of the "Law".

Broad sections of Japanese citizens strongly urge a fundamental amendment to the "Law". This is illustrated by the resolutions demanding its revision adopted by 1,082 Japanese local assemblies.

Nevertheless, the bill being discussed at the current Diet session does not take public opinion into account. Instead it falls far short of "lessening the burden" and "easing control on foreigners."

The bill doesn't touch on provisions for severe penalties stipulated in the present "Law"—for the slightest violation of the "Law" a foreigner is sentenced to one-year of imprisonment or a fine of up to ¥200,000. On the contrary, the bill allows a direct involvement on the part of the immigration bureau of the Justice Ministry in the registration procedures, whereby it aims to tighten the control of resident foreigners, in particular, resident Koreans who form the largest majority of them.

1) A "proposal" to obligate resident foreigners to be fingerprinted only once:

The reason why we oppose this bill is, first of all, the proposal of the Justice Ministry to "reduce the number of times of fingerprinting" is deceptive.

The bill obligates resident foreigners to be fingerprinted only once when they become 16 years old. The question is not how many times they are fingerprinted. But a crux of the matter lies in fingerprinting itself, by which resident foreigners are treated as "criminals." No change can be found in the nature of the "Law" as long as the bill forces resident foreigners to be fingerprinted, and keep and control their fingerprints. It is sheer insensitiveness on the part of the authorities to subject resident foreigners at the sensitive age of 16, when they naturally need social protection and their human rights should be specially taken into consideration.

Further, the bill includes a provision for a new fingerprinting even after fingerprinting. Namely, when the "identification of a foreigner is open to doubt" or the "fingerprint on the alien registration certificate becomes unclear due to damage, stained or faded," he or she is required to give a clear fingerprint at any time. In this case, the order for fingerprinting is made an order under the local government law. Therefore, if a city, ward, town or village office do not observe fingerprinting order of the central government or a prefectural governor, the government or prefectural governor can issue a fingerprinting order directly.

As a result, the fingerprinting work conducted by city, ward, town and village authorities is placed under the direct control of the state. The bill, in this way, aims not to "reduce the burden on foreigners" but to strengthen control on them.

The bill also includes a severe provision for shortening the validity term of the alien registration certificates of those who refuse to be fingerprinted.

2) "Replacement" of the present alien registration certificate with a laminated plastic card and involvement of the immigration bureau in the registration affairs:

The second reason we oppose the bill is that it aims to tighten the control of resident foreigners by replacing the present alien registration certificate by a laminated plastic card and allow the involvement of the immigration bureau in the registration affairs.

The replacement of the present certificate with a laminated plastic card aims to strengthen the obligation to carry the certificate at all times on grounds of "greater convenience in carrying."

So far the work of preparing and issuing an alien registration certificate has been conducted at city, ward, town and village offices. The replacement of the certificate with a laminated plastic card aims to transfer this work to the immigration bureau. This will make city, ward, town and village offices mere agents working for the immigration bureau of the Justice Ministry. As a result, this will mean stronger control on resident foreigners as well as on registration work as a whole including fingerprinting by the immigration bureau of the Justice Ministry.

This implies a qualitative change in the alien registration system for the purpose of increasing state control on foreigners.

The proposed replacement of the certificate by a laminated plastic card will result in the direct control of resident foreigners by the immigration bureau of the Justice Ministry together with the computerization of the control of resident foreigners.

In this way, the bill is nothing but a revision of the "Law" for the worse, aiming at strengthened control of resident foreigners.

Facts about Actual Application Of the "Law"

Before proceeding to discuss the bill, I would like to explain how the present "Law", aimed at resident Koreans, has been ruthlessly applied to violate their human rights.

Without examining these facts, I suppose, it would be possible to discuss a revision of the "Law."

It has been made clear by Japanese government statements and documents issued by the authorities concerned that the "Law" has been primarily aimed at resident Koreans.

For example, on Sep. 16, 1949 a statement to the effect was made by the director of the liaison department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in reply to a questionnaire on the Alien Registration Ordinance addressed by the chief of judicial system of the Judicial Affairs Office (presently chief of the Legislative Bureau).

An examination of the actual application of the "Law" clearly shows that the "Law" is primarily aimed at Koreans.

According to Japan's "annual statistical report of the public prosecutors office," in 39 years from 1947-85, the number of Koreans arrested, unwarrantedly investigated and punished on charges of "violation of the Law" amounted to 520,000. This means that an estimated about 500,000 Korean nationals in Japan above 16 years of age (to whom the "Law" is applied) are arrested once on the average on charges of violation of the "Law" without exception.

One Japanese scholar of legal affairs said: If the majority of those who are under the application of the "Law" can not accept its provisions, the "Law" does not deserve its name. This shows how anti-foreigners the "Law" is.

Violation of the human rights of resident Koreans on ground of violation of the "Law" is a matter of daily occurrence.

I would like to present two cases which occurred recently.

One is the case of Hong Shin Haeng, 22 (at the time), living in Katsushika, Tokyo. On Apr. 2, 1984, Hong was checked by a traffic policeman near his home on his way to a station to send off his friend. He was asked to present his driving licence. When he presented it, he was also asked to show his alien registration certificate as he was recognized as a Korean. Then he honestly said that he has lost his certificate a few days ago. Then he was taken to the police station on the spot and arrested on the ground that he did not carry his certificate with himself. He was detained over night and investigated, stripped off his clothes. He was badly treated. All his 10 fingers were printed. His palm prints were taken and his height and weight were measured.

His status was identified by his driver's licence card. His home was near the spot. Hong's uncle hurriedly went to the police station and offered to be a guarantor for Hong. Nevertheless the police treated Hong in such a manner on the ground of his failure to carry the certificate.

The other is a case of a 21-year old female by the name of Hong Yong Su, living in Kakogawa City, Hyogo Prefecture.

Yong Su was carelessly delayed in renewing her first reregistration for a few months. In June 1985 she was indicted on charges of violating the "Law" and investigated three times at police station and the prosecutors office. She was accused and given a summary order of a fine of 50,000 yen.

Normally a local government office sends a post card to warn resident foreigners about reregistration, which Yong Su didn't receive.

To have warned Hong Yong Su would have been enough to correct her careless mistake. However, the administrative and the judicature authorities dared to punish and brand her as a woman with a criminal record.

Even if a foreigner born and brought up in Japan carelessly forgets his or her reregistration procedure renewed every five years, where can we find rationality in punishing a man for this kind of forgetfulness and impose penalties on him or her?

If the revision of the "Law" is to be discussed, it must be a revision to rectify such situation.

I regret to say that the bill aims not at the improvement but a something else as I already mentioned.

(Continued on page 7)

Pyongyang Film Festival Opens

The First Pyongyang Film Festival of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries opened in Pyongyang on Sep. 1.

Participating in the festival are many delegations and delegates as well as guests of honor from Asian, African, Latin American and European countries and fighting organizations and international organisations. Presented to it are more than 100 films such as feature, documentary, scientific and animated cartoon films made in non-aligned and other developing countries.

Main streets and every part of Pyongyang, the venue of the festival, are festooned with slogans, decorations, picture boards and posters hailing the festival.

Flags of the DPRK and the countries represented at the festival and the festival flag are fluttering on the flagpoles and a tower of the Pyongyang film festival was set up in front of the People's Palace of Culture where the opening function of the festival was held.

Present at the opening ceremony were Li Gun Mo, premier of the Administration Council; Chong Jun Gi, vice premier and chairman of the preparatory committee of the festival; Kang Hui Won, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee.

Diplomatic envoys, cultural officials of embassies and foreign correspondents in Pyongyang attended there.

Chang Chol, minister of culture and art and chairman of the organizing committee of the festival, made an opening address there.

He said that for its noble purpose and great significance the first festival in the history of the non-aligned movement would effectively promote the development of national cinematic art in non-aligned and other developing countries and have an inspiring influence on the strengthening of this movement as a whole.

Through the festival the delegates will gain a deep understanding of the development of cinematography achieved by non-aligned and other developing countries in the building of a new life, share valuable experience and deepen friendship and intimacy among them, he declared.

Li Gun Mo read out a congratulatory message of President Kim Il Sung to the participants in the festival.

Also read out at the opening function were congratulatory messages to President Kim Il Sung and to the festival from foreign government heads and individual figures and international organizations on the occasion of the festival.

Heads of Zimbabwean, Yugoslav and Cuban delegations and Egyptian and Bangladesh delegates made congratulatory addresses.

They said that the congratulatory message of President Kim Il Sung to the participants in the festival analysed in an allround way the purpose and significance of the festival and that it was an important document indicating the way ahead of them.

They expressed the belief that the festival would proceed with success in conformity with the idea of independence, friendship and peace.

Announced there were the members of the international jury of the festival who were nominated at its first session.

The DPRK Administration Council gave a banquet for the participants in the festival on Sep. 1.

Film Fair

A film fair opened on Sep. 2 in Pyongyang following the opening of the First Film Festival of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries.

Many delegations from Asian, European, African and Latin American countries have taken part in this film fair which is aimed at strengthening film exchange and cooperation among countries.

An opening address was made by Chon Du Hyon, director of the Korean Film Export and Import Agency and chairman of the organizing committee of the film fair.

First Show of Festival

The first show of the First Pyongyang Film Festival of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries took place on Sep. 2.

The People's Palace of Culture and cinema houses in the city were crowded with working people, movie fans and foreign guests in the city who were eager to see movies presented to the film festival.

Movies produced in non-aligned and other developing countries since 1981 account for the majority of those contributed to the festival which is held on competition and non-competition bases.

The films of the competition category are divided into feature, documentary, scientific and animated cartoon films.

Shown at the People's Palace of Culture were those from Yugoslavia, India, Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Mozambique, Viet Nam, Romania and the DPRK.

Present there were delegations and delegates of different countries, fighting organizations and international organizations and honored guests who have come to take part in the festival.

Korean working people and moviemen also appreciated the films.

Films shown there were "This Too Shall Pass" *(Yugoslavia)*, "Five Fires" *(India)*, "Until Flames Blaze Up" *(Algeria)*, "Devil's Empire" *(Egypt)* and "The Spell" *(Iran)* and documentary films "Manica Despite the Struggle" *(Mozambique)* and "The Plain" *(Yugoslavia)* and scientific films "Ants" *(Yugoslavia)* and "Ancient Culture of Korea" *(the DPRK)*.

The films presented the achievements by the people in each country in the building of a new society, independent and prosperous, and their brilliant culture.

The animated cartoons included "Dam San" *(Viet Nam)*, "The Apprentice Wizard" *(Romania)* and "Skiing Game" *(the DPRK)*.

Screened at the Kaeson, Taedongmun and other cinema houses were feature films "Master of Puksan" and "The Soldier's Breath" *(the DPRK)*, "Ordeal" and "The Meaning of Human Life" *(India)* and "November 1828" *(Indonesia)*.

Foreign Guests Arrive in Pyongyang

Foreign delegations and delegates and guests of honour arrived in Pyongyang on Aug. 31 by air to participate in the First Pyongyang Film Festival of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries.

The following delegations, delegates and guests of honour arrived:

Abdul Fatah Roshangar, head of the Research Institute of the State Radio, Television and Film Committee who is delegate of Afghanistan; a delegation of Algeria headed by Kareche Boudjemaa, director of the Algerian Centre of Cinematography; Arnaldo Moreira dos Santos, director of the Film Institute who is delegate of Angola; a delegation of Cuba by Jose Massip Isalgue, vice president of the Union of Writers and Artists; Asrul Sani, vice chairman of the Film Council who is delegate of Indonesia; a delegation of Libya headed by Abdul Hamid Megrab, secretary of the People's Committee of the General Corporation of Cinematography; Amadou Bocoum, delegate of Mali; Gopihath Dawadi, delegate of Nepal; a delegation of Palestine headed by film director Fared Ibrahim Hussein; a delegation of Peru; a delegation of Romania; Mariana Olteanu, delegate of the Film Archives of Romania; Mohamed Muse Hassan, director of the General Bureau of Film who is delegate of Somalia; Hammadeh Mohamed Khaled, a film director who is delegate of Syria; a delegation of Viet Nam headed by film director Bach Diep; a delegation of Yugoslavia headed by Josip Kosuta, president of the National Feature Film Coordinating Committee for International Cultural Exchanges; a Yugoslav film archives delegation headed by Bogdanovic Zivislav, director of the Bureau of Film Archives; Greefell C. Siuluta, delegate of Zambia; and guests of honour to the festival Marijan Strbasic, general director of the Yugoslav Federal Administration for International Scientific, Educational, Cultural and Technical Cooperation, and Susamne Duval, secretary general of the International Association of Scientific Cinema.

Earlier, on Aug. 30, Gregorio Elton Lingande, delegate of Mozambique, arrived in Pyongyang by train.

(Continued from page 6)

For the Sake of a Fundamental Revision of the "Law"

From the standpoint of resident foreigners demanding a fundamental amendment to the "Law", I would like to comment on major points in the revision of the "Law".

First of all, to abolish fingerprinting.

Fingerprinting is tantamount to treating resident foreigners beginning with Korean nationals as "potential criminals."

A measure should be taken not to "lessen the burden of fingerprinting" but to abolish it.

Secondly, to abolish the obligation to carry the certificate in person at all times.

Resident foreigners are obligated to carry the pass in person at all times. If they fail to carry it, they are punished on charges of the failure to carry it. If they don't present it, a punishment is imposed on them on charges of the failure to present it. A careless failure to leave his or her certificate at home is not allowed.

As Paragraph 1, Section 38 of the criminal law stipulates, in principle, only deliberate act can be punished, and a special provision is required when negligence is punished. However, the "Law" does not provide for negligence. Therefore, policemen interpret the provision requiring a foreign resident to carry his or her certificate at all times literally and demand that resident Koreans present this certificate no matter whether they are on their way to offices, school or go shopping.

When the cases of violation of the "Law" are classified, the failure to carry the certificate accounts for nearly 50 percent. In this way resident Koreans are placed in an insecure situation in which they may be arrested at any time due to failure to carry this certificate.

Thirdly, to abolish severe punishment.

Both the "Law" and the Residence Register Law and the Family Registration Act, applied to Japanese, have nearly the same purpose of making clear the residences and status of the registrants.

In the Residence Register Law those who fail to register are fined 30,000 yen or less. Namely, only an "administrative punishment" is imposed. However, if one fails to report affairs stipulated in the "Law", one will be sentenced to imprisonment not exceeding one year or a fine of up to 200,000 yen.

In the criminal code even those who are charged with gambling or accidental homicide are sentenced to a fine of only up to 200,000 yen and no penal servitude or imprisonment is imposed. Why is such a careless mistake as failure to take formal procedures punished more severely under the "Law" than the offence gambling or an accidental homicide.

The "Law" provides for unduly harsh punishment. This is because it is intended to be applied at any time to empower the authorities to investigate resident Koreans. And herein lies the nature of the law which regards resident foreigners, in particular, resident Koreans as objects in the maintenance of public peace and order.

By leaving these provisions intact, there can be no "revision" or "improvement" of the "Law."

In the light of the character of the "Law" as a law intended for the maintenance of public peace and order and the severe application of the "Law" in violation of the human rights of resident foreigners, we have consistently demanded the abolition of fingerprinting, obligation to carry the certificate at all times and the heavy penalties.

These are the unanimous demands of all the resident Koreans irrespective of their ideologies and tenets. They are also the common desire of other resident foreigners.

Availing myself of this occasion, I would like to strongly ask the Japanese authorities concerned as well as the Justice Ministry to keep their ears open with modesty, respect the spirit of internationl law including the International Human Rights Covenants, withdraw the bill and take measures for a fundamental revision of the "Law" from the standpoint of guaranteeing the fundamental human rights.

"I Came to North to Lead Conscientious Life": S. Korean Student

Li Jae Hwan, a south Korean student who went over to the northern half of Korea recently while studying in the United States, met home and foreign reporters at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on Aug. 25.

He is 25 years old and his address was Songsan-Dong, Mapo District, Seoul.

He finished a two-year course at Seoul National University before he moved into the University of Michigan of the United States in 1983, where he went through the third and fourth year courses and got bachelorship of economics. Later, he entered the post-graduate course of Stanford University of the United States and, in September 1986, moved into the doctoral course of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He has his parents and brother and sister in south Korea. His father is now a Democratic Justice Party member of the national assembly.

Disillusioned with South

Explaining the motive of his going over to the DPRK, Li Jae Hwan said it was his own option dictated by his conscience and faith, not by economic difficulties or by political suppression.

He said that, while in the United States, he could get an anatomical understanding of the self-contradiction of the capitalist system, the dependence of the south Korean economy on the United States, and its south Korean policy, etc., and conceive a new thought while avidly reading books of diverse themes.

He said:

Studying in the United States, I realized that the "threat of southward invasion" from the north was no more than a pretext for the dictatorial regime to suppress democratic figures and for the United States to keep its forces stationed in south Korea.

Out of curiosity for the north, I read some books written by U.S. scholars comparing the north with the south. The books said the south has been reduced to a virtual colony of the United States, whereas the north, a socialist welfare state where the soul and traditions of Korea are alive, has established independent politics and economy to enjoy high authority in the international arena.

I chanced to pick out "On the Juche Idea" from the bookshelf of university library and read it. It gives an academic and practical exposition of the politics, economy, culture, history and all other fields and elucidates a great truth which helps establish a correct viewpoint of the road of our nation and of how to carve out man's destiny.

I had tasted no particular gust of life itself, although I had lived an easy life. But the Juche philosophy imbued me with national pride and honor.

I was moved more and more deeply by the ideas of President Kim Il Sung when I read "Kim Il Sung's Works."

I became convinced that the north is, indeed, the homeland of the Korean nation, the place where there is a great leader, there is a philosophy of Juche and all the people are advancing toward a socialist paradise.

Li Jae Hwan said he went over to the north through a third country, with this conviction, while touring 19 countries together with American students during vacation.

He went on to say:

I have come to the north voluntarily according to my faith, disillusioned with the society of the south and urged by longing for the north and reverence for respected President Kim Il Sung and the dear leader Mr. Kim Jong Il.

Nobody advised me to come to the north or ideologically influenced me to long for the north.

I came here because, by my outlook on society and view of life formed through my experience and reading, I became convinced that to do so was the only way I could live conscientiously.

Not 'Kidnapping'

He said:

I hear that the south Korean authorities describe my coming to the north as "kidnapping." This, I think, is a stopgap measure to keep its impact from the students and intellectuals in the south.

Li Jae Hwan said the south Korean authorities described his going to the north as "kidnapping" because their vile propaganda against the north would be scuttled when the fact that a south Korean student studying at the doctoral course of Massachusetts Institute of Technology of the United States went over to the north is reported.

Giving his impressions of the north after his arrival, he said he reassured himself, in the course of going round many places of Pyongyang, that he did well to come to the north and that his coming was a righteous action.

He said what impressed him first in Pyongyang was the bright faces of people.

He stressed:

I have been acquainted with the fact that the great General Kim Il Sung waged the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and accomplished the cause of national liberation and with the genuine history of the building of a people's welfare state after the liberation. This has enhanced my national pride.

Visiting various places in the north, I could see that all the factories, schools and construction sites are associated with the leadership and tender loving care of the great President Kim Il Sung and the dear leader Mr. Kim Jong Il, and that everybody I met was deeply feeling the loving care.

I think the north has become a people's welfare society as it is today because the great President Kim Il Sung and the dear leader Mr. Kim Jong Il have shaped a genuine policy for the people.

Indeed, it is the greatest happiness for our nation to hold President Kim Il Sung and the leader Mr. Kim Jong Il in high esteem as the leader of the nation.

US Wants No Democracy

Li Jae Hwan referred to the attitude of the United States and the south Korean authorities toward the trend of democratization in south Korea.

He pointed out that the United States, frightened by the June resistance of the south Korean people, made Roh Tae Woo publish the "June 29 save-the-situation measure" in an effort to gain time for defusing the crisis and now the United States and the south Korean regime are advertising this "measure", as if "democratic development" were brought about in south Korea.

Li Jae Hwan

He stated that, to the United States, south Korea is important as its nuclear base in the Far East and human rights are less important, and the United States, in fact, does not want democratization in south Korea.

Noting that the United States' talk about democratic development in south Korean society is nothing but a fine-sounding ruse to lull the anti-American sentiments and consciousness of the south Korean people, he charged that the United States is supporting Roh Tae Woo as presidential candidate for the next term.

He said Roh Tae Woo seized power in the army through the "Dec. 12 army purge coup" together with Chun Doo Hwan and is directly responsible for the massacre of Kwangju citizens as the "metropolitan garrison commander" at the time of the Kwangju incident and such a fellow would never pursue a democratic policy.

He stated that the south Korean students demand not only the replacement of those in power but also the thoroughgoing overthrow of the military dictatorship and establishment of a democratic regime, and this is also a demand of the workers and other toiling masses in the south.

He said he was convinced of the undisputed justice of his coming over to the north from the social aspect and from his own faith.

EDITORIAL

Positive US Response Crucial In N-S Arms Cut

The DPRK government's various proposals for easing tension on the Korean Peninsula, beginning with the July 23 statement for massive phased arms reduction in the north and the south reflect its sincere attitude toward solving the Korean problem peacefully, though no positive response is yet to be made by Washington or Seoul.

After the July 23 proposal, on July 30, the Supreme Command of the Korean People's Army ordered the discharge of 100,000 armymen by the end of this year.

On Aug. 6, Pyongyang proposed to hold tripartite talks between the foreign ministers of the north and the south with the participation of the U.S. secretary of state and to hold vice-minister-level preliminary talks in Panmunjom at the end of August to ensure foreign ministers' talks.

Moreover, the DPRK Foreign Ministry on Aug. 28 published a statement urging Washington and Seoul to respond to its earlier proposals considering that no response has come from them yet, and also proposed to hold preliminary talks between the north and the south only, if they consider it inconvenient to hold tripartite talks.

Naturally, arms reduction should be regarded as a prime target in easing tension and creating favourable conditions for the peaceful reunification. Arms reduction is a prerequisite to peace.

Pyongyang last year mobilized its 150,000 soldiers for peaceful construction and has declared the discharge of 100,000 KPA soldiers by the end of this year, thus matching its words with deeds.

It may be easy to see how Pyongyang is serious about easing tension and ensuring peace, as it is going to demobilize 250,000 armymen in two years and actually did discharge many of them last year.

No "peace offensive" can afford such a courageous act.

The United States should respond to the DPRK's sincere proposals if it truly wants peace and the peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula.

The presence of 43,000 U.S. troops and some 1,000 nuclear warheads in south Korea is crucial to the arms reduction question.

Tokyo's Intention to Send Troops Overseas Hit

Rodong Sinmun, organ of the WPK Central Committee, on Sep. 1 commented on Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone's statement at the Diet that the dispatch of Japan's maritime "Self-Defence Force" to the Persian Gulf was not illegal.

The signed commentary said:

This fundamentally reversed the official announcement of the Japanese government hitherto that Japan could do nothing but financial assistance because the dispatch of its "Self-Defence Forces" to the Persian Gulf ran counter to the constitution.

Nakasone's claim is a dangerous aggressive logic to justify the troop dispatch overseas which is prohibited in the present Japanese constitution and make it a fait accompli.

It is a mockery of the Japanese people and a high-handed challenge to the Asian people.

The challenging explanation that the overseas dispatch of the Japan's SDF is legally possible is an inevitable product of the militaristic aggressive line of Nakasone.

The praise of the past war of aggression and the justification of the overseas dispatch of the SDF by the Japanese authorities have a thread of connection between them. They seek the same purpose to weaken public protest and condition the Japanese people ideologically to accept overseas aggression in case Japan's armed forces are dispatched to a war of aggression abroad. Nakasone's outcry is a deliberate and premeditated offensive for this purpose.

The Asian people are following the movement of the Japanese with high vigilance.

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